



A Life of Make Believe: From Paralysis to Hollywood

John Mahon

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KIRKUS BOOK REVIEW A memoir from a physically disabled actor who navigated the rough-and-tumble world of showbiz. You may not recognize his name, but there's a good chance you've seen Mahon in a TV show or movie. Since the 1970s, this veteran character actor has appeared in numerous works—usually portraying a police officer or military man—such as *The Exorcist*, *The Rockford Files*, *The X-Files*, *L.A. Confidential* and *Armageddon*. But for Mahon, the path to Hollywood wasn't easy; as detailed in his memoir, he spent most of his life facing personal and professional obstacles. In 1950, at the age of 12, Mahon contracted polio, which caused him to lose the use of his left arm. The ongoing thread through this book is that, despite his physical disability and some professional setbacks, Mahon never gave up: "I didn't want to be an actor. I had to be one." Along the way, Mahon offers anecdotes about some of his acting roles; his friendship with Jason Miller, best known as Father Karras in *The Exorcist* and the playwright of the Pulitzer Prize-winning work *That Championship Season*; and his encounters with fellow actors such as Al Pacino, Warren Beatty, James Garner and James Coburn. Perhaps because Mahon isn't a recognizable famous star and he didn't live a tremendously glamorous lifestyle, the book's tone is quite unassuming and modest compared with other gossip-laden celebrity tell-alls. Managing a dash of humor, he's frank about some of the not-so-pleasant aspects of the profession—whether it's him dealing with a particular actor or director or working on projects that never got off the ground. Mahon's straightforward, honest perspective about his craft could benefit aspiring actors who take heed of his wisdom and experience. Thoughtful and entertaining, an engaging example of determination both on screen and in real life.



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Blair Gant:

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William Henslee:

In this period of time globalization it is important to someone to acquire information. The information will make someone to understand the condition of the world. The health of the world makes the information simpler to share. You can find a lot of referrals to get information example: internet, paper, book, and soon. You can view that now, a lot of publisher this print many kinds of book. The particular book that recommended for your requirements is A Life of Make Believe: From Paralysis to Hollywood this guide consist a lot of the information with the condition of this world now. This specific book was represented how do the world has grown up. The words styles that writer value to explain it is easy to understand. Typically the writer made some exploration when he makes this book. That's why this book acceptable all of you.

Mary Perez:

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